

Happy news amid global financial crisis



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Winehouse vows to resist divorce pg 14



Two kids hit by van taken to hospital

INJURIES Two small children and a woman were injured when a minivan struck them as they were crossing a Dartmouth street Friday.

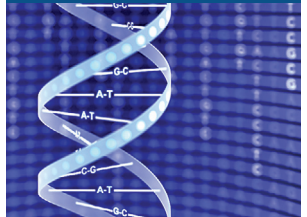
They were crossing Victoria Road at Primrose Street when a van turning left onto Victoria Road hit them.

A three-year-old girl was seriously injured. The four-year-old boy's injuries were less severe; both were hospitalized, as was the woman walking with them.

Police are still investigating.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/
METRO HALIFAX

Workology pg 10



Helping kids with genetic disorders

Local pg 2

Green plan to hit N.S. Power

Sports pg 7



Cardinals to face Steelers

Entertainment pg 11

Horror more than 3-D gag

ShareYourViews

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QMJHL Wildcats edge Moose



Moncton Wildcats goalie Nicola Riopel makes a third-period save on Mooseheads forward Gabriel Desjardins during yesterday afternoon's QMJHL game at the Metro Centre. The Wildcats beat the Mooseheads 6-4. Story, page 8

HRM gets rolling on bus updates

Planned GPS systems to sync Go Time with real time

PAUL MCLEOD
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At some point, every Metro Transit rider has had the experience of cursing Go Time. That could soon change.

People who call the Go Time number at bus stops get the scheduled time their bus should show up. Of course, the scheduled time can sometimes be way off.

GPS systems will change all that. By now, Go Time was supposed to give you the actual times your bus was coming. The system

"It's to upgrade and also to make sure we standardize things and keep the same systems in place, so we don't have a mish-mash."

Mayor Peter Kelly

would tap into the GPS of the bus and give you an accurate predicted time, taking into account delays.

That system was supposed to go online in 2008, but according to Mayor Peter Kelly, there were issues that pushed it back. Currently, most buses have GPS systems, but not all. That's about to change.

The municipality is in the process of buying new GPS systems so the whole fleet will be equipped.

HRM is also buying buses new cash boxes so there will be a consistent system. Right now, different buses have different setups depending on the model.

"It's to upgrade and also to make sure we standard-

ize things and keep the same systems in place, so we don't have a mish-mash," said Kelly.

In other news, Halifax is also getting new inflatable shelters to help with rescue operations. The shelters are mostly funded by the federal government and are to be used across Atlantic Canada when needed.

"If there's a fire or you need temporary lodging or a cookhouse, whatever you need, these can be used for that purpose," he said.

"This is gear that we need in the event of an (emergency) response."

Brindi verdict to affect bylaw

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ANIMALS After spending months on doggy death row, Brindi's life was saved Friday.

But it wasn't the outcry of animal lovers from across the country that saved Francesca Rogier's pet. It was Brindi's lawyer convincing a Nova Scotia Supreme Court judge the city's animal-control system is illegal.

Blair Mitchell had argued the system gives too much

power to city officers who can independently take a dog and sentence it to death. Mitchell argued there wasn't an adequate system of warning to the owner or an appeal process.

The judge's decision means the city's animal-control bylaw will need to be overhauled. Mayor Peter Kelly said much of the bylaw can stay the same, but parts will have to be altered.

"One part of it might have to change. It's under review as we speak. (Staff) will decide at the beginning of the week as to where to go from here."

Brindi was captured by the city after it escaped Rogier's property and attacked a guide dog in July. It was the third time the dog had attacked another animal, and the animal-control officer deemed it was too violent to be released.

Changes

- Council will eventually have to approve any changes made to the city's animal-control bylaw as a result of the Supreme Court agreeing with Brindi's lawyer that the system is illegal.

Now here's a prize to warm up a cold day: Linda Geary of Halifax won the \$75,000 Live Free for a Year BMO-Red Cross grand prize. Eight others won smaller prizes, including \$10,000 for home renovations or \$5,000 cash. Money raised goes to the Red Cross. **METRO HALIFAX**

Local



Competing to be green

Dalhousie University and Acadia University both passed their "acts of green" goals just a day after challenging each other to the contest. By Friday, Dalhousie totaled 18,610 acts of green from 455 people; Acadia racked up 3,311 acts from 117 people. Dalhousie now wants to take on Trent University in Peterborough, Ont. **METRO HALIFAX**

Greenhouse-gas goals laid down

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Nova Scotia Power was the major target of the province's climate change plan released Friday.

The plan calls for greenhouse-gas emissions to drop 10 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020.

NSP produces just below half of Nova Scotia's emissions, and will face hard caps to meet the target.

The caps take effect in 2010, 2015 and 2020, and will require NSP to move away from its coal-fired plants towards renewable energy.

But the details of how to meet the targets are still up in the air.

"We're determining the outcomes. We're not dictating to Nova Scotia Power how they're going to reach those targets," said Environment Minister David Morse.



"It's highly possible that power rates are going to go up because energy costs are going up."

Environment Minister David Morse

"But we are setting the targets and we're setting them realistically."

Ways to reach the targets include "greening the grid" by harnessing more tidal and wind power, using clean-coal technology,

or more natural gas.

There's some cost associated with all of those, and Morse expects power rates to rise over the years because of it.

But he said short-term costs will be offset by long-

term gain.

"It's highly possible that power rates are going to go up because energy costs are going up," said Morse.

"But we want to make sure that we deliver the most cost-effective power generation, including both the environment and the economy."

More details of how NSP will cut pollution are expected to come out over the next month as government meets with the utili-

ty to iron out the details. The plan calls for the province's annual emissions to be 2.5 megatonnes lower by 2015 than they are now.

They must be five megatonnes lower by 2020.

Meeting the goals of the plan will also require overhauling the way we get around.

Currently, about one quarter of the province's greenhouse-gas emissions come from transportation.

SMU could see software windfall

RESEARCH Saint Mary's University has signed a deal to sell a software suite developed on-campus that could bring it up to \$725,000 in royalties.

Economics professor Dr. Andrew Harvey started the Halifax Space-Time Activity Research project in 2005; he collected GPS data from more than 2,000 HRM households about their activities.

Researchers then developed some travel-study software, which Britex Information Systems plans to market. **METRO HALIFAX**



Elizabeth Churchill Snell, right, talks with Lt.-Gov. Mayann Francis at the New Year's Levee yesterday. The function, usually held on New Year's Day, was postponed because of the blizzard.

An Honour-able event

JENNIFER TAPLIN
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EVENT Dressed in her winter boots and a fancy dress, four-year-old Angelina McCaughan executed her curtsy for the lieutenant governor yesterday.

Lt.-Gov. Mayann Francis held her New Year's levee yesterday at Province House. It traditionally runs on New Year's Day but a blizzard postponed this year's event.

Angelina's mother, Carolyn, said her daughter wasn't nervous as she delivered her practised curtsy.

Historian Elizabeth Churchill Snell was very enthusiastic to meet Her Honour yesterday after-

"I so much wanted to meet Her Honour ... I had a descendant from the third lieutenant-governor in that building."

Churchill Snell

noon. The two stood close together as they chatted about former lieutenant-governors.

"I so much wanted to meet Her Honour," Churchill Snell said. "I live across from Government House and I was saying to (Francis) that I had a descendant from the third lieutenant-governor in that building."

Trina Oyckle of Dartmouth, who had never stepped inside Province House before yesterday, was the second person in

line.

"It's looking like I'll be moving to Alberta later this summer so I thought I better come before I don't get a chance to ever come again," she said. "I'm getting married and my fiancé lives out there."

Oyckle said she talked about the weather with Francis.

"It's swanky, I like it," Oyckle said gesturing to the musicians and catered snack table in the Red Room of Province House.

Alleged drug war members in court

JON TATTIE
for Metro Halifax



CRIME Fifteen people appeared in court Friday to face charges including attempted murder, drug trafficking and firearms offences after a bloody drug war flared in Halifax following the release of Jimmy Melvin Jr. in November.

Aaron Marriott, 18, Jeremy Leblanc, 26, Shaun Smith, 23, Matthew Murphy, 24, are charged with attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder over a shooting at the IWK children's hospital on Nov. 18.

Leblanc is also charged with attempted murder over the Dec. 4 Cowie Hill shooting of alleged drug rival Melvin. Daniel Borden, 24, is charged with being an accessory after the fact in the Melvin shooting. Borden was already in custody and police are seeking another man.

All of the accused are alleged to be part of one half of a drug war behind a recent rash of violence in Halifax. On Thursday, police wound up their year-long Operation Intrude by seizing drugs, money and weapons from several homes.

Three of the 15 accused were released on sureties; the remainder were returned to jail until the case moves along this morning.

Among them was a family: Torina Lewis, 35, was freed, but her husband Paul Cater, 48, was sent back down, as was his son Kyle, 18. The courtroom

The accused Their charges

- Matthew Murphy, 24: attempted murder, conspiracy to commit murder, drug trafficking
- Shaun Smith, 23: attempted murder, conspiracy to commit murder, drug trafficking
- Jeremy Leblanc, 26: two counts attempted murder, conspiracy to commit murder, drug trafficking
- Aaron Marriott, 18: attempted murder, conspiracy to commit murder, drug trafficking
- Daniel Borden, 24: accessory after the fact in Melvin shooting
- Ian MacIsaac, 43: drug trafficking
- Terrence Priest, 24: drug trafficking
- Shawn Shea, 29: drug trafficking, break and enter
- Matthew Glavine, 22: released on bail, due back in court Feb. 16
- Timothy Stewart, 22: breaching court order
- Dawn Bremner, 43: released on bail, due back in court Feb. 16
- Troy Shanks, 27: drug trafficking
- Paul Cater, 48: charges not available
- Kyle Cater, 18: charges not available
- Torina Lewis, 35: released on bail, due back in court Monday

was packed for much of the day.

Friends of the accused filled the back two rows, shouting, "Keep your chin up," as they filed in.

News in brief

CORRECTION Halifax hosted the IIHF world junior hockey championship in 2003. In 2004, the city hosted the IIHF world women's hockey championship, followed by the world championship in 2008. Incorrect information appeared in Friday's Metro. Metro regrets the error.

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY



Video Omar Khadr's fate up in the air as Gitmo closure looms at metronews.ca/canada

Lotteries

Friday, Jan. 16: Super 7: 9, 11, 15, 16, 31, 39 and 47. Bonus 12.; Saturday, Jan. 17: Lotto 6/49: 8, 12, 20, 28, 39, & 47 Bonus 10
These results are not official.

Grow local, buy local

Agriculture Minister Mark Parent has signed a pledge promising to buy more local foods and products over the next year. It's an initiative launched by the Wolfville Farmers Market. For more information, visit wolfvillefarmersmarket.com. **METRO HALIFAX**

Police seize gun stash, pound of marijuana, cash

CRIME Guns and drugs were found in a Cherry Brook Road house on Friday morning.

Police searched the house under a warrant before 10 a.m. on Friday. They found a sawed-off shotgun, a 12-gauge shotgun and two revolvers. They also seized a pound of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and some cash.

A 38-year-old man and a 22-year-old woman will appear in court facing firearm and drug charges. A 71-year-old woman will appear in court in March.

FIRE Arson is considered the likely cause of a car fire on the weekend.

By the time police and firefighters responded to the call at 7:45 a.m. on Saturday, a vehicle in a Wyse Road parking lot was engulfed in flames.

Witnesses spotted a suspect wearing a white-hooded parka fleeing from the area when the fire started. **ARREST** A would-be bank robber and car-jacker was tracked down by police on Saturday.

It started just after 11 a.m. on Saturday. A 29-year-old man allegedly walked into the Scotia Bank on the Bedford Highway, jumped over the counter and tried to take money from the cash drawers.

He was told to leave, and he did.

He then allegedly tried to force a man out of his car in the parking lot, but failed. He ran off into the woods behind the mall instead.

A two-hour track led K-9 officers to Smith's Road in Bedford, where officers learned the suspect took a taxi to Lucasville Road. Police found the man inside a residence and arrested him.

CHARGED Early Friday morning, police arrested a man who allegedly broke a business' window in an attempt to rob it.

The 48-year-old man was caught on Cornwallis Street before 1 a.m. He was charged with attempted break-and-enter and property damage.

METRO HALIFAX



Sewage treatment plant shut down indefinitely

PROBE The new sewage treatment plant on the waterfront is shut down indefinitely as engineers search for the cause of a minor malfunction last week.

While the search is ongoing, raw sewage is again flowing freely into the harbour.

Last week's malfunction occurred after several power failures in the area on Wednesday.

A spokesman for Halifax Harbour Solutions said the search for the cause "could take quite a while."

The malfunction occurred less than a month

after the municipality took ownership of the \$332-million plant from the builders.

For the past couple months though, municipal officials had refused to accept the takeover of the plant, claiming there were systemic problems, particularly in backups.

They also cited a bad odour as a reason for their refusal.

The city has said it is looking to determine if prior problems were the result of the malfunction. The plant has a three-year warranty.

METRO HALIFAX

Meeting

- The Halifax regional council will meet this week to discuss the malfunction.

Accidents claim pair of lives

JENNIFER TAPLIN
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There were a few fatalities on the roads — and off — this weekend.

A small pickup truck crossed the centre line on Highway 101 near St. Croix Saturday morning.

The truck hit an SUV travelling in the opposite direction. The 53-year-old driver of the SUV was

Search and rescue for snowmobilers

- Search-and-rescue workers were deployed to find the snowmobilers, and they found one man who was suffering from hypothermia and frost-

bite. He was airlifted to Halifax.

- As of the most recent update, the RCMP and search crews were still searching for the second man.

killed and pronounced dead at the scene.

A 51-year-old woman in the pickup truck is suffering from life-threatening

injuries and was taken by air ambulance to Halifax.

RCMP believe black ice on the overpass was a factor in the crash.

A 27-year-old Shelburne County man was killed when his ATV hit a tree on Saturday.

He was riding on a trail on Dalhousie Mountain in Pictou County.

One snowmobiler is still unaccounted for in the Forest Glen area of Yarmouth County after two men were reported missing on Saturday morning. They left for a ride on Friday night.

ONCE UPON A TIME,
a Kindly Lady won a 19-room, eco-friendly luxury home with ensuite jacuzzi. And all the children in the land lived happily ever after.

THE END Become part of the story by buying IWK Lottery tickets.

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A picture sketched by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has fetched 37 million roubles (\$1.15 million US) at a charity auction. The painting of snowfall seen through a window, finished by a professional artist, features a sprawling "Putin" signature. **REUTERS**

Canada/World

Canadians have mixed hopes for Obama: Poll

Most Canadians believe Barack Obama will improve the image of America around the world, but many doubt he will be able to keep some of his biggest promises, a new poll has found.

A Toronto Star/Angus Reid survey found 79 per cent of Canadians believe the next U.S. president will succeed in boosting the battered reputation of his country, but fewer think he will be able to overcome some of the challenges to get him there.

27 The percentage of poll respondents who believe Obama will withdraw all combat troops from Iraq in 16 months.

The online survey showed only 27 per cent of respondents believe Obama will withdraw all combat troops from Iraq in 16 months, with 31 per cent believing he will fail and 41 per cent unsure.

They were more optimistic about his promise to shut down the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, with 49 per cent of respondents believing he'll succeed, 14 per cent believing he'll fail and 37 per cent not sure.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff speaks during a caucus meeting on Parliament Hill in Ottawa yesterday.

Liberals warn Conservatives against tax cuts in budget

OTTAWA Arguing that a recession is not the time to cut income taxes, the federal Liberals yesterday served notice to Prime Minister Stephen Harper that he is risking his government if he goes ahead with across-the-board cuts.

Harper, whose Conservative government will stand or fall based on what's in the Jan. 27 budget, has said the economic rescue package being prepared for the budget must include tax breaks for middle-class Canadians, whose spend-

ing can help revive the economy.

The Liberals are opposed to making tax cuts the centrepiece of the budget, especially since Canadians may not spend the money they save through the cuts, which would deprive the economy of the sought-after stimulus.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff signalled yesterday the party is prepared to dump the Conservative minority if the budget is inadequate.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Goat accidentally hangs itself at zoo

ALBERTA An exotic goat at the Calgary Zoo accidentally hanged itself after it became entangled in a rope and fell off a log, CTV television reported yesterday.

The accident was the lat-

est in a series of deaths at the zoo. Last November, an elephant calf died of a virus, and in May 2008, 41 stingrays died for reasons that have yet to be explained.

REUTERS

Tentative truce called in Gaza

Hamas announced an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip yesterday and gave Israel, which had already declared a unilateral truce, a week to pull its troops out of the territory following a three-week war.

There was shooting from both sides after their separate announcements, but broadly the ceasefire appeared to be gaining strength and Israeli troops began pulling out of Gaza, which they entered on Jan.

Infrastructure damage

• According to the Palestinian Statistics Bureau, some 4,000 residential buildings have been reduced to rubble.

• Western diplomats have said it could cost at least \$1.6 billion US to repair the infrastructure damage in Gaza.

3, a week after an air offensive began.

"We don't want to stay in Gaza, and we intend to leave it as soon as possible," Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said.

Troops and tanks could be seen streaming back

over the border from Gaza from early on yesterday, all but ending combat after a 22-day conflict in which more than 1,300 Palestinians were killed. Ten Israeli soldiers and three civilians also died.

In Gaza, families began

emerging from their places of hiding and returning to their homes.

Hamas, whose rocket fire Israel said triggered its assault, announced its ceasefire about 12 hours after Israel's own move and said its Islamist allies in Gaza would also adhere to it.

Yet despite the signs of the ceasefire gaining momentum, there still remains no formal deal between Israel and Hamas.

REUTERS

Crisis won't affect happiness: Expert

STUDY Happiness can survive the blows of financial crises, says Ruut Veenhoven who has been studying happiness for more than 25 years.

"Whether the financial crisis has made people less happy, one can only tell when the crisis is over," said the director of the World Database of Happiness, a register of scientific research on the subjective enjoyment of life.

"It's not very likely, because the previous economic crisis didn't have effects on happiness," the professor of sociology at Erasmus University in Rotterdam told Metro.

"I'm talking about the crisis between 1980 and

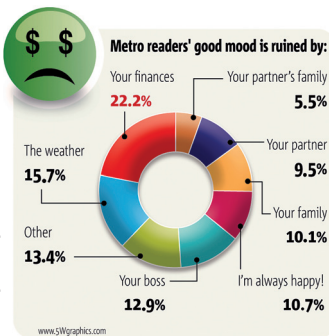
1982. That was a considerable recession with unemployment in the Netherlands increasing to half a million people.

"In 1989, a couple of colleagues and I did research on how this crisis had a negative effect on the happiness of the average citizen. There was hardly any effect. People were a little more worried about their income, but not less content with their lives as a whole.

"The sale of tranquilizers didn't rise and doctors were not confronted with more patients with psychosomatic complaints.

"Apparently, mankind is strong enough to cope."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Metro readers rate the happiest world leader:

52.2% 17.0% 8.9% 3.3% 1.4%



Barack Obama (USA) Nicolas Sarkozy (France) Silvio Berlusconi (Italy) Angela Merkel (Germany) Gordon Brown (UK)

www.5Wgraphics.com

Obama celebratory, solemn as he nears inauguration

WASHINGTON Barack Obama approached his inauguration as the 44th U.S. president with a mix of solemnity and celebration yesterday, laying a wreath at a military grave and then swaying along at a concert featuring Bruce Springsteen and Beyonce.

Walking side by side, Obama and vice-president-

United States Presidential Inauguration

elect Joe Biden placed a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery's Tomb of the Unknowns before braving a cold day to take in a concert on the steps of the

Lincoln Memorial.

As Obama prepared to be sworn in tomorrow, he stressed the depth of the challenges that he faces, including the recession and the unfinished wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, but said he was optimistic about the country's ability to face them.

"Despite the enormity of

"I stand here today as hopeful as ever."

Barack Obama

the task that lies ahead, I stand here today as hopeful as ever that the United States of America will endure," he said.

REUTERS

News in brief

SEARCH Arthur Nadel, a Florida investment manager who allegedly disappeared with what could be hundreds of millions of dollars of other

people's money, remained missing yesterday as the FBI and the Securities and Exchange Commission joined in the investigation against him.

IRAQ A suicide bomber yesterday killed the deputy leader of Iraq's second-biggest Sunni Arab political bloc, the Iraqi National Dialogue Front, as he

and other politicians met to discuss an upcoming provincial election, the party's leader said.

REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Put on your boogie shoes

HineSight

Anne Hines



while back I did a column on “wise things said by people who aren’t me.” Given the success of this piece (someone mentioned they’d read it), I now present: Wise Words, Installment No. 2.

First up, playwright and style-slave of the Victorian age, Oscar Wilde, who, on his deathbed in the home of a friend, famously announced, “Charles, either these curtains go, or I do.”

Wilde also said, “Fashion is merely a

form of ugliness so unbearable that we are compelled to alter it every six months.”

I would disagree with this entirely if it weren’t for gladiator shoes and the 1980s. Also, the only way I’m going to make it onto anyone’s best-dressed list is if Home Workers Monthly runs a “ratty bathrobe issue.”

Next, historian and Harvard professor Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, who said: “Well-behaved women rarely make history.”

They do, however, get invited to dinner parties and asked to join book clubs.

Life’s a trade-off, eh?

From an Old Chinese proverb: “It is better to light a single candle than to curse the darkness.”

Cursing the electric company, however, is entirely OK.

Legendary actor W.C. Fields: “If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again. Then quit. There’s no use being a damn fool about it.”

Words to live by. Particularly if you’re a) a person trying to get a date or b) a national political party trying to get a majority.

Next, from an anonymous source: “No one in all society is so underrated, disregarded and underpaid as the plucky humour columnist.” I just can’t imagine who said this. It’s got a ring of truth though, doesn’t it?

Lastly, wise words from Fredrick Nietzsche. Nietzsche was born in Germany in the mid-1800s and undertook a career as a philo-

gist. He abandoned this, possibly upon realizing that no one knew what the heck a philologist was.

He then became a philosopher somehow thinking this would be a more profitable career choice. Some guys can’t win.

As a philosopher, Nietzsche offered such insights as, “Existence is an imperfect tense that never becomes a present.” To which we can only respond, “Um ... what?” He also said, “It is my ambition to say in 10 sentences what others say in a whole book.” Clearly, this is a man who didn’t get the concept of “royalties.”

However, I forgive Nietzsche everything for saying, “We should consider every day lost in which we have not danced at least once.”

It doesn’t get any wiser than that.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.



MICHAEL DE ADLER

Letters

Shopper pockets five cents, carries food home

I went to a bakery on Main Street in Dartmouth and was surprised to see a sign on the door that said customers would be charged five cents for a plastic bag.

Can you believe it? You go buy baked goods as usual, and then all of a sudden you have to pay an extra five cents for a bag you’d get free any other place you buy food.

I mentioned this to the clerk, who told me that Ontario and other places are charging people for the bags.

I bought what I wanted and carried the food out in my hands. I wasn’t about to pay extra for a plastic bag!

BETH MYERS, COLE HARBOUR

Seeing red over getting wed “rule of thumb”

I picked up my very first copy of Metro Halifax tonight at a local business and was quite insulted by

the article by Jon Tattrie entitled “Getting Wed Without the Red.”

Patricia Pardy uses the term “rule of thumb” when referring to how to choose the guest list for the wedding.

I am also mortified that a woman used the term. Either Patricia Pardy is ignorant to the commonly believed folklore of the term “rule of thumb,” or she is just plain cruel.

Rule of thumb refers to the thickness of the stick with which it was commonly believed that a man was permitted to beat his wife with. This term has been inappropriate for many years and is downright insulting when referring to a very intimate event between a woman and her partner.

While there have been other documented uses for this term, the reference to beating a wife is quite widely known among anyone with a social conscience.

JUDE BILLARD, DARTMOUTH

Views

Halifax business is showing its green side

CleanBreak

Rochelle Owen



rochelle.owen@gmail.com

Organizations are starting to include sustainability actions in the workplace. That’s wide-ranging — anything from a policy to a building upgrade. Here are a few examples from groups around town.

Mountain Equipment Co-op (MEC) has reached 98 per cent waste diversion from landfill. Employees rid themselves of virtually all garbage cans, used a high-efficiency hand dryer in the bathroom, worked with suppliers to ensure recyclable shipping material, conducted waste audits, and diligently separated composting and recycling.

Plastics that can’t be recycled in HRM are sent on a returning truck to Montreal. MEC provides sustainability training for all new staff. In the last year, the store has given over \$100,000 to activity-based and environmental projects in the region. The MEC building burns biodiesel for heating.

Some MEC products are made using organic cotton and recycled material.

A number of NGOs are walking the talk by retrofitting their offices. Ecology Action Centre and Clean Nova Scotia offices both use solar energy after recent retrofits. Ecology Action Centre sustainability upgrades can be viewed at <http://ecologyaction.ca/virtualtour>.

Stantec, formerly the

Jacques Whitford environmental consulting firm, went carbon neutral and provides carbon neutral consulting. The company has recently released a sustainability report on its website that highlights many of its programs.

“A number of NGOs are walking the talk by retrofitting their offices.”

Sustainability co-ordinators in each office help with inter-office challenges and learning sessions. It also promotes sustainable transportation initiatives, such as teleworking and video-conferencing.

The provincial government recently passed the Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act. As part of its internal efforts, Conserve Nova Scotia heads up Rethink, a behavioural program that focuses on concrete sustainability actions that employees can

do — from turning off lights to printing double-sided. When I worked at Environment Canada, it had internal sustainability teams across the country. In the Atlantic office, the team instigated a number of programs, such as cutting back on automatic phone book delivery. The office also completed an after hours energy audit of office equipment to determine energy waste.

For my next column, I’ll focus on sustainability stories from 1920 to 1960. One reader told me how electricity was cut off for several hours a day at school to let the factories have power in post-war Britain. Please e-mail me your stories from this period.

Rochelle Owen has worked in the environment and sustainability field for more than 19 years. She currently works as the director of sustainability at Dalhousie University.

Metro Online Poll Results

7% SAID completely genuine

24% SAID mostly genuine

Is the first ministers meeting in Ottawa a genuine pre-budget negotiation or a public relations exercise?

Weigh in on today’s question at metronews.ca

34% SAID mostly PR

34% SAID completely PR

It’s your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: halifaxletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender’s full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

British biotechnology company ReNeuron Group has received regulatory approval for a clinic trial to assess whether the injection of fetal stem cells can help 12 patients regenerate parts of the brain damaged by stroke. **REUTERS**

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Tough love for banks, Obama aide promises

U.S. President-elect Barack Obama will push bankers to resume lending to businesses and consumers to help put the ailing economy back on track, his top aides said yesterday.

"I think he is going to have a strong message for the bankers," said David Axelrod, a top Obama adviser. "We want to see credit flowing again. We don't want them to sit on any money that they get from taxpayers."

Axelrod, on the ABC Television program This Week, said "We have to make sure the money doesn't go to excessive CEO pay and dividends when it should be going to lending."

Obama has put forward

"Let's remember why we're in the mess we're in."

David Axelrod on the Bush administration

an \$825 billion US stimulus package that is designed to create more than 3.5 million jobs in the next few years.

Republicans have criticized aspects of Obama's package as a throwback to what they call traditional Democratic borrow and spend policies.

Axelrod rejected complaints from the top House Republican, John Boehner of Ohio, that Obama had failed to consult adequately

ly with Republicans and would not be able to generate enough jobs through the proposed plan.

"Let's remember why we're in the mess we're in," Axelrod said in a critique of the Bush administration. "Part of it is that when the Clinton administration left office, we were running record surpluses, and the policies that were put in place doubled our debt in a matter of a few years."

REUTERS

Staffing issues

- Obama stands behind Timothy Geithner, his choice for treasury secretary, despite his failure to pay some taxes, incoming chief of staff Rahm Emanuel said.



Gas agreement on table

Russia and Ukraine aim to sign a deal today to restart gas flows to Europe through Ukraine after agreeing on a price for 2009 supplies. Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said Ukraine will receive a 20 per cent discount from the price European customers pay, on condition Kiev froze 2009 tariffs for gas transit at last year's levels. **REUTERS**

Taiwan Holiday stimulus



People shop along a street market in Taipei on Saturday. The Taiwanese government distributed consumer vouchers worth \$132 US to each citizen in a bid to stimulate domestic consumption and invigorate the country's economy.

Obama's plan breaks cycle: Aide

ECONOMY U.S. President-elect Barack Obama's senior economic aide, Lawrence Summers, said yesterday he does not see the U.S. rate of unemployment topping 10 per cent.

While he noted there would be "substantial job losses," he was confident the plan would "contain what would otherwise be just a vicious cycle, people spend less, therefore they earn less."

REUTERS

In brief

BAILOUT Denmark unveiled a bank aid package worth \$17.7 billion US yesterday, offering to inject public credit into banks to jumpstart corporate and private lending.

ECONOMY Britain will suffer the biggest annual economic contraction this year since the end of the Second World War. Ernst & Young ITEM Club predicted a 2.7 per cent fall in gross domestic product.

REUTERS

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World Baseball Classic single-game tickets on sale

Starting today, fans will be able to purchase single-game tickets to the opening round in Toronto. Visit worldbaseballclassic.com or bluejays.com for more.

7

Sports

JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Steelers, Cardinals Super Bowl bound

NFL ROUNDUP**Steelers 23, Ravens 14**

Troy Polamalu's 40-yard interception return for a touchdown with 4:24 remaining in the fourth quarter sealed Pittsburgh's 23-14 AFC championship game win over Baltimore and catapulted the Steelers to their seventh Super Bowl appearance.

Ben Roethlisberger completed 16-of-33 passes for 255 yards and a score as the Steelers (14-4), moved ahead to take on NFC champion Arizona Feb. 1 in Tampa, Florida. The Cardinals topped Philadelphia, 32-25, earlier Sunday in the NFC title game.

Jeff Reed kicked three field goals for Pittsburgh and Santonio Holmes scored on a 65-yard catch-and-run play in the first half.

Baltimore's Willis McGahee ran 20 times for 60 yards and a pair of touchdowns, but was carted off the field

Arizona's Edgerrin James celebrates yesterday.

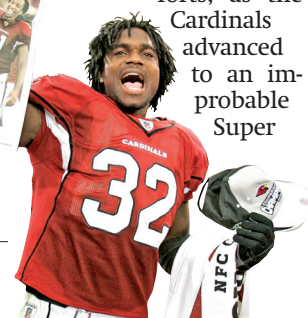


The Steelers' Troy Polamalu makes the game-clinching interception in the fourth quarter yesterday.

on a stretcher late in the fourth quarter after a violent collision with Pittsburgh safety Ryan Clark. **CARDINALS 32, EAGLES 25**

Tim Hightower powered into the end zone on an eight-yard screen pass from Kurt Warner late in the

fourth quarter and the Arizona defence fended off Philadelphia's last-ditch efforts, as the Cardinals advanced to an improbable Super

**SUPER BOWL XLIII****Sunday, Feb. 1**

Bowl berth behind a 32-25 victory over the Eagles in an exciting NFC championship game.

After blowing an 18-point halftime lead, the Cardinals trailed 25-24 before putting together a meticulous 14-play, 72-yard drive that lasted nearly eight minutes. Hightower gained first downs on 4th-and-1 near midfield and 3rd-and-1 from the Eagles' 14-yard line.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Nash spreads it around

NBA RESULT**Suns 117 Raptors 113**

Steve Nash only finished with nine points, but the two-time MVP dished out a season-high 18 assists and had a huge bucket in the waning seconds, as the Phoenix Suns handed the Toronto Raptors a 117-113 defeat.

Amare Stoudemire logged a game-high 31 points and Jason Richardson tallied 17 for the Suns, who won their ninth straight game against the Raptors and snapped a two-game skid.

Shaquille O'Neal and Matt Barnes each contributed 16



Steve Nash is greeted by his former national team coach and Raptors bench boss Jay Triano yesterday in Toronto.

points in the win.

"I was very pleased with the win and it is nice to see Steve (Nash) finish up the way he did," Suns head coach Terry Porter said.

Trade rumours

• The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported Saturday that there has been talk between the Raptors and Miami Heat on a Jermaine O'Neal-for-Shawn Marion swap.

Anthony Parker paced Toronto with 26 points in the team's fifth straight setback. Joey Graham dropped a career-high 22 points, while Chris Bosh recorded 20 points and 12 rebounds in another loss.

An 8-2 run by Toronto tied the game at 102-all with seven minutes to play. Holding a one-point lead a little later, Barnes hit a jumper and Stoudemire threw down a dunk to put the Suns up, 114-109.

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The Halifax Mooseheads named two more of their Fans' 15 choices. High-scoring forward Ramzi Abid checked in at No. 13 among fans' favourite players of all-time, while stalwart defenceman Alexandre Picard was voted No. 12. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Wildcats come away a winner

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Moncton Wildcats couldn't stop the self-dubbed Euro Line, but they did stop the Halifax Mooseheads.

The Wildcats got past the Mooseheads 6-4 yesterday at the Metro Centre, halting the Herd's first winning streak of the QMJHL season at a modest two games.

But the Mooseheads still come away from the weekend comforted by the phenomenal play of their newly-assembled top line, which features Czechs Jan Stransky and Tomas Knotek and Moscow-born, U.S.-raised Yuri Cheremetiev.

The trio lit it up on the weekend, combining for eight goals and seven assists, not to mention 27 shots. The crowd buzzed with excitement every time they hit the ice.

"You can definitely call us the Euro Line — the guys are already calling us that," said Cheremetiev, af-

ter Halifax's 6-2 win over the Bathurst Titan on Saturday night.

"We showed a lot of chemistry. All three guys are creative and we want to make the pass and make each other look good."

Stransky, acquired in a December trade from the Gatineau Olympiques, was coming off a four-game, 14-day suspension, and piled up four goals and two assists. He has seven goals and four assists in five games with Halifax.

The former Czech under-20 scoring champion showcased a bullet of a shot with a hair-trigger release.

"He wasn't playing as much as he wanted to (in Gatineau) but here he's playing everywhere, everything," said Knotek. "He's a sniper. If we pass to him, he can score the goals."

Because the Canadian Hockey League doesn't permit more than two imports per team, the unit is as close to all-European as you'll find. They scored all four goals yesterday.



Moncton Wildcats defenceman David Savard takes a shot on Mooseheads goalie Mark Yetman during the second period of yesterday afternoon's QMJHL game at the Metro Centre.

Knotek tied the game 3-3 just 46 seconds into the third period, but Moncton exploded for three unanswered goals — including two from Stewiack's Zach Sill — to get the win.

"We battled hard but

some stupid plays led to the goals," the 18-year-old Knotek said. "It's too bad for us."

Mark Yetman started both games and stopped 55 of 64 shots. Justin Pender (knee) and Jessyko

Bernard (groin) were notably absent from the Mooseheads' lineup.

The Mooseheads (13-28-2-2) return to action on Wednesday at 7 p.m. on the road against the Wildcats.

Sports in brief

HOCKEY Former Halifax Mooseheads captain Petr Vrana will miss the rest of the season with a broken leg. The New Jersey Devils prospect had made his NHL debut in the fall.

AUS FOOTBALL The St. Francis Xavier X-Men have named Gary Waterman head football coach. Waterman, a former running back and defensive back at St. F.X., has been the team's defensive co-ordinator for the past three seasons.

HOCKEY Halifax native Steven Anthony was named the Canadian Hockey League's player of the week on Friday. The Saint John Sea Dogs forward had piled up three goals and five assists in two games the previous week.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

QMJHL				
ATLANTIC DIVISION				
	W	L	OT	P
Moncton	33	6	5	71
Cape Breton	33	13	2	68
Saint John	25	19	4	54
P.E.I.	17	23	9	43
Bathurst	17	22	9	43
HALIFAX	13	27	4	30

PBL				
ATLANTIC DIVISION				
	W	L	PCT	
Manchester	3	2	.600	
HALIFAX	3	3	.500	
Montreal	2	2	.500	
Vermont	2	2	.500	
Quebec	1	3	.250	

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Mayes wears Crookshank's number

Halifax Rainmen guard Rodney Mayes wore the No. 20 of suspended forward Eric Crookshank on the weekend. The Rainmen only have 12 league-issued jerseys and said they had no choice but to reassign Crookshank's number in order to get new signing John Strickland into the lineup. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

SMU Huskies hoopsters win five of six

AUS BASKETBALL The Saint Mary's Huskies men's basketball team is coming on strong, with five wins in its past six games.

The Huskies earned a pair of home wins on the weekend, beating the Cape Breton Capers 69-65 on Friday and the P.E.I. Panthers 113-111 in overtime on Saturday to climb into a tie for second in the Atlantic University Sport standings.

Mark McLaughlin piled up 43 points and Joey Haywood added 41 to help the Huskies improve to 7-3.

The Dalhousie Tigers, meanwhile, split on the weekend, beating P.E.I. 77-61 and losing to Cape Breton 65-57.

They also have a 7-3 record and are tied with the Huskies.

The St. Francis Xavier X-Men (9-1) are first.

In women's play, Dal (7-3) stretched its winning streak to seven games with wins over P.E.I. and Cape Breton.

**MATTHEW WUEST/
METRO HALIFAX**

New England curse continues

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

It's fair to say the Vermont Frost Heaves and Manchester Millrats have the Halifax Rainmen's number.

That number stretched to 14 on the weekend.

The Rainmen, who have not beaten either team in a combined 14 attempts in their two-year history, lost to each of their rivals on a weekend road trip and have fallen out of first in the Premier Basketball League's Atlantic Conference.

Halifax was thumped 117-98 by Manchester yesterday and edged 107-99 by Vermont on Friday.

Their two-game totals of 14-for-46 (.304) from three-point range and 56 turnovers led to their demise.

"Once our shooters come to the party, we'll have a chance to win," said Rainmen head coach Rick Lewis. "We're grinding in the post, but our shooters haven't had a good night and we need to



Former Millrat Rob Sanders scored 19 points and pulled down 20 rebounds against his old team yesterday.

hit from the outside to open the game up."

"You can't win on the road with 28 turnovers," he added.

Rob Sanders, a former Millrats star, had a huge night against his former team yesterday, with 19 points and 20 boards. Glen

Dandridge had a game-high 24, but shot just 3-of-13 beyond the arc. Jimmy Twyman added 19 points.

The Rainmen (3-3) have lost three straight and are now behind the Millrats in the conference standings. They play next on Saturday on the road

against the Detroit Panthers.

• David Bailey played at less than 100 per cent with a knee injury ... Sharp-shooter Brian Silverhorn sat out with a knee injury ... Sanders added 19 points and 11 boards on Friday.

Hockey Huskies into playoffs

AUS HOCKEY Four straight wins have helped the Saint Mary's Huskies men's hockey team clinch a play-off spot. The Huskies (14-6) trail only the first-place New Brunswick Varsity Reds in the Atlantic University Sport standings after beating the Acadia Axemen 4-3 on the road on Friday and the Dalhousie Tigers 5-2 at home on Saturday. Fourth-year forward Marc Rancourt had a goal and two assists on Friday to boost his AUS-leading point total to 41. Dal, meanwhile, dropped to 4-14 on the weekend, also losing 6-3 at home to the St. Francis Xavier X-Men. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Morrison called up to the A

HOCKEY Former Dalhousie Tigers star Jordan Morrison has been called up to the AHL's Wilkes-Barre Scranton Penguins. The 22-year-old forward was previously with the Wheeling Nailers and was leading the ECHL in scoring with 52 points in 37 games. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Don't miss Curtain Call, Metro's exclusive feature series in the Workology section. In the realm of death there are some interesting, lucrative and mysterious career opportunities; we will be digging up the stories for you, so check out Metronews.ca/work exclusively throughout January.

Metro Workology exclusive: Curtain Call

Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

No Picasso for CBU

Cape Breton University is considering selling a Pablo Picasso sketchbook, one of the most valued pieces in its permanent collection. The sketchbook was donated to the university in 1996 by an anonymous donor.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

It's all in (her) genes

OddJobs

Diane Peters



In 1981, when Cheryl Shuman joined the staff at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, she was one of only two fully trained genetic counsellors in the entire country.

Today, the 54 year old heads a staff of 14, and is

the program director for the masters programs in genetic counselling at the University of Toronto, one of four such programs in Canada. Her first job was south of the border, as no one was using genetic counsellors here yet.

The entire profession is quite new. It was created in the 1960s in the U.S. when doctors found they needed someone to help them educate pregnant women about the risk for genetic conditions like Down's Syndrome. Shuman first read about the profession in a newspaper article in

"We demystify everything and help people contextualize the information within their own families"

Cheryl Shuman

1969, when she was in her last year of high school. After finishing a science degree at the University of Toronto, she enrolled in the masters program for genetic counselling at Sarah Lawrence College in New York, one of just a few

schools offering such a program in the 1970s

At school, Shuman learned about the science of genetics, and also took numerous counselling courses that dealt with a range of issues; such as how to break bad news, be culturally sensitive and assess how people are coping.

When she started at the Hospital for Sick Children nearly 30 years ago, Shuman worked in the prenatal program. Now, her clinical hours are devoted to families whose children have genetic disorders that

The Lowdown

Job title: Genetic counsellor

Salary: \$65,000 to \$85,000

Education: Masters degree in genetic counselling

Best part of the job: "Working with the families, learning from them, and learning about the science."

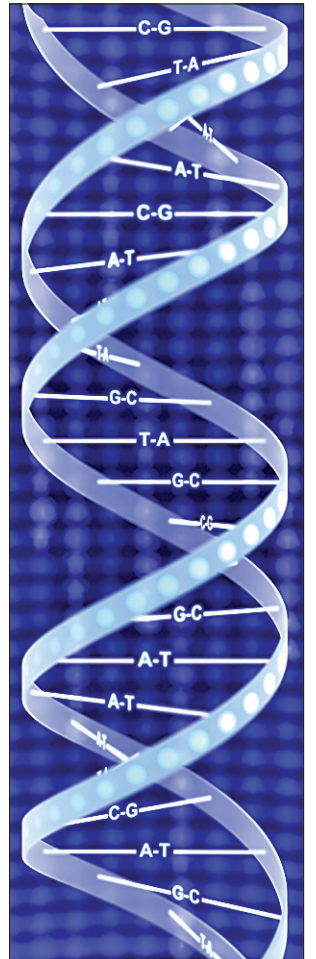
Worst part of the job: "Delivering bad news. And the paperwork."

make them grow larger than expected and, as a result of their genetic mutation, are also at higher risk for developing tumours.

While a doctor on her team does the physical examinations, Shuman takes a family history and orders blood tests. She then helps families interpret the results of the genetic tests, discuss how they'll cope if the child is diagnosed, and talk about risks for other family members. "We demystify everything and help people contextualize the information within their own families," she says.

She often sees families a few times, and sometimes they return later if they're considering a pregnancy or want another family member tested.

With almost every new client, Shuman checks the latest medical literature to make sure she's completely up-to-date. Genetic re-



Genetic counsellors work with kids with metabolic problems, sex chromosome mutations and cancer.

search is making new discoveries constantly. The Hospital for Sick Children now has counsellors working with kids with metabolic problems, sex chromosome mutations and cancer. In the future, the list will probably expand.

"At my job, there's always something new."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

Now Hiring...

ASSISTANT KITCHEN STEWARD SUPERVISOR

World Trade and Convention Centre (WTCC), a division of Trade Centre Limited and Atlantic Canada's premier venue for meeting and convention service, currently has an opening for an **Assistant Kitchen Steward Supervisor**.

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Pete Wentz and Ashlee Simpson guest on CSI

Real-life husband and wife Pete Wentz and Ashlee Simpson have signed up to play Bonnie and Clyde-type wannabes on the CBS drama CSI:NY. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

11

Entertainment

**Star expecting**

Rachel Griffiths, who stars on ABC's *Brothers & Sisters*, is adding another baby to her brood. The mother of two is pregnant with her third child.

PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

A tribute to horror classics

My Bloody Valentine 3-D

Director: Patrick Lussier
Stars: Jensen Ackles, Jaime King
Classification: 18A
Rating: ●●●●

STEVE GOW
 for Metro Canada



Jaime King, left, and Megan Boone in a scene from the new horror film *My Bloody Valentine 3-D*.

REVIEW I'm not sure why it came as a shock to me that I actually enjoyed *My Bloody Valentine 3-D*.

After all, I have a fondness for the gratuitous horror genre of the early '80s and since this is a revamped version of one such low-budget slasher pic, why wouldn't the nostalgia tweak a sense of fun? Toss in some stunning digital 3-D technology and bring on the pickaxe-flailing psychopath, I say!

A shocker about a murderous stalker who devastated a small mining town called Harmony, Valentine picks up 10 years after the

psychopath is thought to have died. Guess what? He's back and nobody knows who's hidden behind the killer's mask. Could it be

the duplicitous sheriff (Kerr Smith) or a young heir (Jensen Ackles) who has coincidentally returned to shut down the mine?

As much as this film is counting on the gimmickry of 3-D to fill seats, director Patrick Lussier (*Dracula 2000*) manages to avoid hanging himself solely on the gag and instead constructs a suspenseful homage to those earlier horror flicks while keeping the killer's identity hidden just long enough to carry the simple plot.

Lussier never takes the scares too seriously and captures campy, over-the-top dialogue and gratuitous, gory death scenes designed to maximize the stunning effects — there's nothing quite like seeing a head cut in two by shovel in digital 3-D. Sure, this Valentine is not for the faint of heart, but to paraphrase another's sage-like words — those who like it, will like it a lot.

Box office

- 1 Paul Blart: Mall Cop:**
\$33.8 million US
- 2 Gran Torino:**
\$22.2 million
- 3 My Bloody Valentine 3-D:**
\$21.9 million
- 4 Notorious:**
\$21.5 million
- 5 Hotel for Dogs:**
\$17.7 million
- 6 Bride Wars:**
\$11.8 million
- 7 The Unborn:**
\$9.8 million
- 8 Defiance:**
\$9.2 million
- 9 Marley & Me:**
\$6.3 million
- 10 Slumdog Millionaire:**
\$5.9 million

REUTERS

Poehler enjoys Spring Breakdown

U.S. comedian Amy Poehler's film Spring Breakdown lightens the economic gloom shadowing the Sundance Film Festival, premiering despite itself having been rocked by the financial crisis.

The comedy about three 30-something women who go on spring break — the wild annual vacation taken by U.S. college students — was made in 2006 but languished after its studio home shut down last year.

"We came here just to toss it out there," Rachel Dratch, who co-wrote the film and stars alongside her former Saturday Night Live TV show colleague Poehler, told Reuters.



Amy Poehler

"It was at (studio) Warner Independent for a while and then they closed and it's kind of been tossed around a bit. So this was a fun way of seeing it in front of a crowd and just getting it out there and having a celebratory mo-

ment with it," she said.

In 2008 the industry fell on hard times and Warner Bros film studio cut production and streamlined its operations as the economy slipped into recession.

Spring Breakdown cost between \$10 and \$12 million US to make and will likely appeal to women and gays, Poehler and Dratch said.

"It's a Sundance sorbet in between all the war and oppression," said Dratch, 42. "It's not typical Sundance fare," said Poehler, who left NBC's Saturday Night Live last year after giving birth to her son with husband actor Will Arnett.

REUTERS

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TODAY'S BEST MUSIC



12 entertainment

Game-linked music sales set to skyrocket

Now that selling song downloads through video games has achieved liftoff, the business seems poised to rocket into orbit. Last year, Rock Band and Guitar Hero users downloaded more than 50 million tracks from the games.

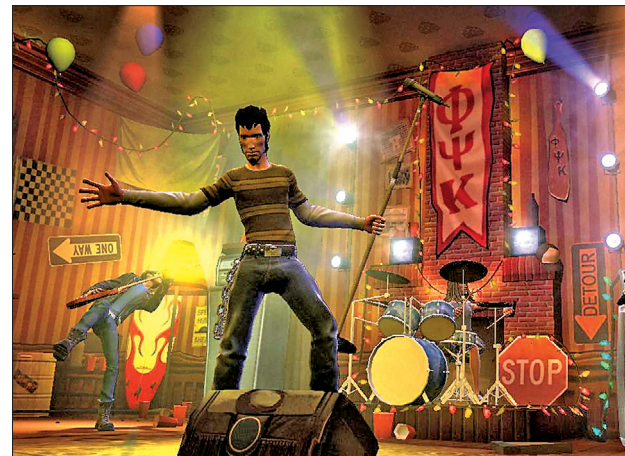
Game-linked song downloads are expected to surge in the coming year as the music-simulation games continue to extend their reach in the marketplace and, more important, other games allow users to buy and download songs as well.

"What comes with the success of Rock Band and Guitar Hero is the microscopic view of what the potential of music in this medium can be," said Steve Schnur, worldwide executive of music and marketing for Rock Band distributor Electronic Arts.

"There are other titles that continue to be not just successful, but outsell these games by wide margins," Schnur said.

"So the question isn't, 'What's the next Rock Band?' The question is, 'When can we take the model of a 24/7, day-by-day musical relationship with not only music games, but with every game?' I believe this is the year that's going to happen."

The Rock Band and Guitar Hero franchises will keep leading the way in music sales. Rock Band, which has been the most aggressive to date, offers new music every week, maintains a selection of more than 500 songs on its platform and has sold an



An image from Guitar Hero: World Tour. While the games Rock Band and Guitar Hero have spurred song downloads, some think the potential for game-linked music sales is vast.

average of four songs per user.

MTV said it plans to increase the number of available songs this year to as many as 5,000.

Meanwhile, Guitar Hero has fewer than 100 songs available for sale and has sold an average of one track per user. But Kai Huang, founder/president of Guitar Hero publisher Red Octane, said it will begin offering new music on a weekly basis in 2009.

Game consoles such as as Microsoft's Xbox 360 and Sony PlayStation 3 allow developers to create new content that gamers can buy to update games they already own.

While such "microtransactions" haven't yet included song downloads outside of Rock Band or Guitar Hero, Schnur said he expects developers to begin offering them through the Xbox Live Marketplace and the PlayStation Store.

Gamers can already im-

"The question isn't, 'What's the next Rock Band?' The question is, 'When can we (use) the model of a 24/7 musical relationship with every game?'"

Steve Schnur

port songs into games on their own, but in most cases the added music plays on top of the game's programmed audio. Music sold and downloaded through a game console would have the added appeal of being directly integrated into a game's soundtrack.

"Once we start allowing people to introduce and incorporate their own songs ... I believe games that are not even known for music will soon begin to be important to people musically speaking," Schnur said.

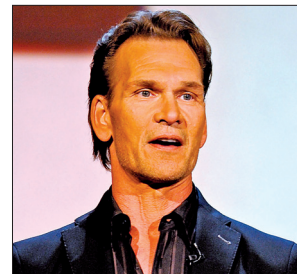
REUTERS

Swayze released from hospital after a week

PEOPLE Actor Patrick Swayze, who is battling pancreatic cancer, has been released from a weeklong stay at a hospital where he was treated for pneumonia, People magazine reports.

Swayze, 56, was hospitalized in Los Angeles on Jan. 9, hours before he was scheduled to appear at a gathering of television critics to promote his new TV crime drama, The Beast.

"I am happy to announce that Patrick Swayze is home after a brief hospitalization for pneumonia," his spokeswoman, Annett Wolf, told People in a report published on the magazine's website.



Actor Patrick Swayze speaks at Stand Up To Cancer on Sept. 5, 2008 in Hollywood, Calif.

Swayze, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer last year, told Barbara Walters of ABC News in a TV interview broadcast on Jan. 7 that he was "going through hell" and might have only two years to live. But he denied reports he was near death.

REUTERS

Tommy Lee keeps side project alive

MUSIC Tommy Lee is ready for a little mayhem — and not just with Mötley Crüe. The rock drummer, who with his bandmates kicks off the group's Saints of Los Angeles tour Jan. 31 in Indio, Calif., told Billboard he has started work on his second Methods of Mayhem album, following up his side project's platinum 1999 debut.

DJ Aero and guitarist Kai Marcus are still onboard, and Lee's producing partner Scott Humphrey "is starting to get involved" as the songs are formulating. "We're going to start tracking as soon as Mötley is done (touring) at the end of March, and hopefully I'll have it ... done by the top of June," Lee said.

REUTERS

Mayer on TV

Singer John Mayer has landed his own variety TV show. The guitarist is planning a pilot episode for CBS. Network president Nina Tassler said. "It'll be a music variety sketch show." [FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK](#)



Battlestar bidding

IntelleVision



THE GEEK GARAGE SALE: So were you shocked by Friday's return of Battlestar Galactica? Thrilled, bummed, confused? It's one down, nine to go — not including The Plan, the Edward James Olmos-directed movie, due to air after the final episode, which is actually set sometime during the first season, so it doesn't really count toward the show's finale. And then there's Caprica, the prequel series scheduled to debut next year, but let's not get ahead of — or behind, as the case may be — ourselves.

Word also came down this weekend that Matt Weiner has finally signed a contract that puts him at the helm of two more seasons of Mad Men, which will hopefully be as far as he's willing to take the show.

I've been gritting my teeth hoping that Ronald Moore and the rest of Galactica's creators wouldn't make that often invisible slip into hokey junk before wrapping up the series, and now I've got to worry that Weiner will pull off a decent denouement for his show and avoid the temptation to keep a steady gig. I'd like to think that both shows, in the end, will underline the case for limiting the lifespan of a TV series to four seasons at the

In brief

NETWORKS Even with hit shows such as Desperate Housewives and Grey's Anatomy, ABC is tightening its belt as it weathers the U.S. economic downturn and tries to remain relevant in an industry challenged by digital entertainment. ABC, a unit of Walt Disney Co, has lost about 9.7 per cent of its prime time audience in the 2008-9 season compared with the same stage last year.

REUTERS

GlobalStyle



See complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and purchase tickets at [metronews.ca/movies](#)



Tricia Helfer.

absolute maximum, though in a perfect world two seasons should be enough.

Fans who, like grieving relatives or the lovelorn, can't let go, were probably bleeding their bank accounts this weekend at the auction of the show's costumes, props, sets and de-

sign drawings held in Pasadena, Calif., where you could pick up a Cylon Resurrection Tub (lot 799, estimated at \$2,500-\$3,500 US), a full-sized Viper (lot 347; \$50,000-\$60,000) or Adama's desk and accessories (lot 752; \$6,000-\$8,000.) The budget-conscious could settle for the pen Gaeta used to stab Baltar (lot 441; \$400-\$600, complete with dried stage blood), while you'll be a star at the next comic con with either an unnamed Viper pilot uniform (four lots from small to XL; \$2,000-\$3,000) or Kara Starbuck's flight suit (lot 111; \$10,000-\$15,000.)

The real prize, however, was probably the red backless dress worn by Number Six, played by ex-model Tricia Helfer (lot 260; \$10,000-\$12,000), and probably only suitable for a very lean size one who's been spending a fair bit of time in the gym. Or a very willowy and extravagant transvestite whose tastes run to Darth Vader and not Marlene Dietrich.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

Survival for all unlikely situations

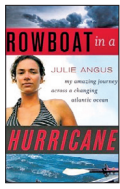


Survive!

Author: Les Stroud
Publisher: HarperCollins
Price: \$21.95 (Paperback)

BookPicks

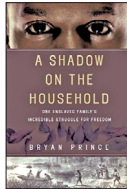
Survival, thank heavens, is a subject we're far more likely to encounter in a dramatic work than in real life. But for those do-or-die moments when you need to start a fire on a deserted island, brave a bone-chilling blizzard or forage for dinner in the middle of a hurricane, Les Stroud of Survivorman television fame has got you covered. In Survive!, Stroud presents detailed tips and helpful accompanying photographs on everything from building an appropriate shelter to finding something edible, as well as how to train your mind to attain the psychological state needed to help you live.



Rowboat in a Hurricane

Author: Julie Angus
Publisher: Greystone Books
Price: \$22 (Paperback)

Canadian couple Julie and Colin Angus not only crossed the Atlantic Ocean in a rowboat, but survived four cyclones — including two that escalated into hurricanes — in the process. Rowboat in a Hurricane is Angus' account of the 10,000-kilometre journey, and she details not only the climactic challenges they met along the way but also their encounters with all sorts of unique critters, including the frigatebird and a giant sea turtle. To her surprise, the oceanic whitetip shark, once common to these waters, didn't put in an appearance — a sign of environmental ravage. Angus entwines science with intimate exchanges in this engaging account.



A Shadow on the Household

Author: Bryan Prince
Publisher: McClelland & Stewart
Price: \$32.99 (Hardcover)

In the mid-nineteenth century, against the climate of American slavery, John Weems had one wish: For the nine members of his family to survive, together. The former slave had been able to buy his own freedom, but when his family's master died, profit-hungry descendants aimed to separate the family to sell. But his family members tried in their own way to reunite with Weems, including his daughter, who used the Underground Railroad to find liberty in Canada. Ontario slave descendant Bryan Prince pens this impassioned true tale of a family's eight-year fight for freedom in union.

BRIAN COULTON/
FOR METRO CANADA

critics' corner

ZOS Zone of Separation Occasionally horrifying but with its darkly humorous moments, this new eight-part series focuses on an international peacekeeping force in present-day Bosnia, where tensions between Christians and Muslims are deep and long-standing. Michelle Nolden, Lolita Davidovich, Colm Meaney and Jim Codrington star, with Enrico Colantoni ("Flashpoint") as a militia leader with an unusual wardrobe. 11 PM on M1



Sophie A swap meet for old boyfriends — great idea! In this new episode, Sophie (Natalie Brown), unhappy with Rick's (Sebastian Spence) invasion of her office, decides to take him to an "ex-beau" party in hopes of finding him a new woman to bother. Mimi Kuzyk and Amy Lalonde also star in "The Ex Beau Incident." 8:30 PM on CBC

God Bless America The curious relationship our neighbors to the south have with religion is the subject of this new six-part documentary series from Ralph Benmergui of "My Israel" fame. While religion is a private matter for most Canadians, it's been playing an increasingly larger role in U.S. politics and public policy. Benmergui interviews a variety of American religious folk, from lobbyists and students to church-based civil rights leaders. 11 PM on V

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
1/19/09	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC Wild News	Raising the Roof	The Bachelor (N)				True Beauty
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)	Paris Hilton's My New BFF			Paris Hilton
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (N)	CBC News: The National			The Hour
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Terre humaine	Pyramide (SC)	Virginie (SC)	Les Parent (N)	Les Boys (SC)	Tout sur moi		Le Téléjournal
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Worst Week
	69	69	69	CFTM	TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Les Gags	Bloopers	Céline: les secrets		Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)	TVA 22 heures
	6	6	6	CHIF	Entertainment	ET Canada	Captain Cook: Obsession	House "Painless" (N)	24 (HDTV PA) (N)			News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Hollywood	CSI: Miami (HDTV) (N)	Big Bang Th	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Corner Gas (N)	News (N)
	10	10	10	ELTV	EastLink Mag.	Fishing	Harv's Sportsland (Live)	Build It	Harv's Sportsland		EastLink Television	
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Painless" (N)	24 (HDTV PA) (N)		Fox First
primetime	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Superstars of Dance	The dance competition continues.		Momma's Boys
	29	29	29	NW	World News	Business	CBC News	Newman	The Hour	CBC News: The National		Doc Zone
	4	4	4	PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Greater Boston	Chronicles	Antiques Roadshow (N)	The Story of India (N)			India
	35	35	35	PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	Antiques Roadshow (N)	The Story of India (N)			India
	68	68	68	TQS	(6:30) Le Retour (SC)	Beauté	C'tune joke	CSI: NY (SC)	Terminator: Les Chroniques			110 pour cent
	23	96	96	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call	Berman's Call	Money Talks	Business News	Squeeze Play	Market Call
	18	18	18	CNN	(5) The Situation Room	From MLK to Today (Live)	Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live (Live)			Cooper 360
	54	54	54	GOLF	Golf Central	Top 10	PGA West	Golf Hawaii (N)	PGA Tour Golf Sony Open in Hawaii -- Final Round.			Lessons
	52	52	52	RSE	Prime Time Sports		Overtime	UFC: Access	Ultimate Fighting Championship 83: Serra vs. St. Pierre 2			Sportsnet Con.
	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey Talk	Game On	RaceNight		(10:15) WWE Monday Night Raw			
news	45	45	45	SPD	Unique Whips		Trackside	NASCAR Pre.	SuperCars	SuperCars	My Classic Car	Auctions
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	That's Hockey!	Strongest Man	NBA Basketball	Phoenix Suns at Boston Celtics. (HDTV) (Live)		
	43	43	43	FAM	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	That's Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek
	44	44	44	TOON	Ben 10	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6teen	6teen	Misadventures	Futurama
	26	26	26	TREE	Max & Ruby	Backyardigans	Wonder Pets	Nght Grdn	Friend Rabbit	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider
	27	27	27	YTV	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Scorpion	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Zixx Level
	16	16	16	A&E	Intervention In-Depth: Meth		Intervention "Brittany"		Intervention "Kristen"		Intervention "Casie" (N)	Paranormal
	70	70	70	APTN	News		Notre Peuple "Miroir en face"		Terres arct.	Mishkuenita	Kazan (1994, Drame) Jeff Fahey, Sophie Duez.	
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live "MLK Celebration Show"				Boycott *** (2001, Docudrama) Jeffrey Wright, Terrence Howard.			
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Hot Dance	Dance With Me	Raising the Bar		Crossroads of Rock N' Roll	Bravonews
family	25	25	25	CMT	Dedicated		All About (N)	All About	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs	Home Improve.	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park
	153	153	153	COURT	W-Five		World's Wildest Police Videos		Cops Uncut	Dumb Criminal	Legal Briefs	Police Videos
	38	38	38	DISC	Destroyed	Destroyed	Daily Planet (N)		MythBusters		Dirty Jobs	Vermintors
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	Property Virgin	For Rent	Income Prop.	Property Virgin	House Hunters
	46	46	46	HIST	Massacre at Verrieres Ridge		NCIS "Once a Hero"		Battle 360		Massacre at Verrieres Ridge	NCIS
	17	17	17	MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	Meet Barkers	Meet Barkers	Instant Star	Instant Star	MuchTopTens	
	19	19	19	MMM	MusicProfile	mmm10.com	Revival		Listed (Part 2 of 2)		Where You At	Back In
	201	201	201	M1	Another Cinderella Story		Stargate Atlantis		Sanctuary (Part 1 of 2)		U.S. of Tara	Secret Diary
	48	23	23	OLN	American Gladiators		Bounty Hunter	Dakar Rally	Survivorman (N)		Mantracker	
cable variety	51	51	51	PEACH	Seinfeld	Friends	House-Payne	Black in America (HDTV)				Welcome to
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:40) The Hand ** (1981, Horror)		Khaled * (2001, Drama), Michael Kanev		Natural Born Killers (1994, Crime Drama)			
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI en direct	RDI en direct	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDI en direct
	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Kink in Hair	Kink in Hair	Kenny-Spenney	Rent-A-Goalie
	40	40	40	SLICE	X-Weighted "Chris"		Til Debt-Part	Rich Poor	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Tabatha's Salon Takeover	Tim Gunn-Style
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1 "1969"		Lost		Lost "Cabin Fever"		The Dresden Files	Ghost Hunters
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: NY "Grand Master"		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		The Hills Have Eyes ** (2006, Horror)	
	57	98	98	STAR	etalk	Hollywood	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	First Class All the Way	Tonight Show
	21	21	21	TLC	Jon & Kate Plus 8		Jon & Kate Plus 8		Jon & Kate Plus 8		Jon & Kate Plus 8 (N)	Little-Married
	56	34	34	TROP	What Happen?	Whatever	TV Made, Do It	News Show	Tube Tales	Whatever	Make or Break	TV Made, Do It
cable variety	20	20	20	TV5	(6:55) Cible	Journal de Fr2	L'Objet du scandale		Trains-aures	(9:45) Babylone		Femme
	28	28	28	V	Just Cause		Murder, She Wrote		Eyes Down	May-December	McLeod's Daughters (N)	God Bless
	60	97	97	VIVA	Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy		Commander In Chief		Commander In Chief	Truth, Duty
	22	22	22	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	How Clean	Kim	Love It or List It	Save Us-House
	251	251	251	WGN	Be-Millionaire	Evening News	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		One Tree Hill (HDTV) (N)	WGN News



Former pop star Boy George (real name, George O'Dowd) was sentenced Friday to 15 months in prison after being found guilty for falsely imprisoning and beating a Norwegian male escort, Audun Carlsen. INTOUCHWEEKLY.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Winehouse pleads against divorce

DISPUTE Amy Winehouse has vowed she will not allow her husband to go ahead with his divorce plan, people.com reports.

Blake Fielder-Civil — currently in jail for assault and attempting to pervert the course of justice — has recently instructed a lawyer to file for divorce signaling the end of the couple's tumultuous union.

But the singer is quoted in the U.K. newspaper The Sun promising to fight that.

"I still love my Blake. I won't let him divorce me," she told the newspaper.

And explaining her recent behavior that has seen her hanging out with

a rugby player-turned-actor Josh Bowman, Winehouse, 25, says that doesn't mean she is not going to have "some fun" and a "good time."

She made her comments during her extended vacation in St Lucia. In a break from her partying, she is pictured playing Scrabble as she chats about her life.

And she says she loves Fielder-Civil "because he's just like me."

"Blake is the male version of

me. We're perfect for each other. I don't want to go back home to England. I want to wait for Blake here," she is quoted saying. She says she has not been "doing drugs" and, speaking of Bowman, she added, "Josh was lovely. But it was a holiday thing. I've got my Blake."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Portia calls marriage "peace"

RELATIONSHIP Five months after her wedding to Ellen DeGeneres, Portia de Rossi is declaring that marriage has "completely changed my life," people.com reports.

"Marriage is a different way of being together," the actress told People magazine on Friday while promoting her upcoming ABC series Better Off Ted.

Even though the couple has been together since 2004, tying the knot strengthened their bond. "There's a peace to (being married) and a sense of togetherness that we just didn't have before. And I didn't even realize it

would change as much as it has, but it's so lovely," said the actress.

"It's legal, and it's real, so there's that kind of formality to it that makes it very valid," added de Rossi. De Rossi also holds out hope that other gay and lesbian couples will ultimately be able to enjoy the right to be legally married, a right that was repealed

in California last fall shortly after their nuptials. "Every day of our lives is a protest against the passing of Prop 8," she said. "We're a happily married couple. It was kind of devastating, actually, when it passed."

One element of their post-wedding life de Rossi isn't looking forward to is taking the hot seat as a guest on DeGeneres' daytime talk show, which she will "unfortunately" do to promote her new series.

"I say 'unfortunately' because it just seems like a very awkward kind of interview. She'll make it flawless, and I'm excited to talk about the show," she said. "I just hope she doesn't ask any personal questions. That's off limits."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Simpson uses perfume on hair

BEAUTY Jessica Simpson sprays her hair with perfume so she doesn't have to wash it, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The singer and actress was advised to only shampoo her long blond locks two or three times a month by her hairdresser Ken Paves, so she uses fragrances to cover the smell when her locks need a clean, the website says.

A source said: "Jessica's tresses are often greasy, but she hides it well. She wears hats or reaches for

the Hairdo, the clip-on extension line she created with Ken. If her hair starts to smell, she just spritzes it with perfume from her own range."

Jessica is not the only star who shies away from cleansing her hair, the website adds. British actress Emily Mortimer recently revealed she uses dry shampoo because she hates washing her hair.

The Match Point actress admitted: "I'm very unhealthy. I

hardly ever get my hair cut and use Batiste Dry Shampoo so I don't have to wash it every day."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Joaquin delivers first music performance

CAREER After announcing his retirement from acting in October, Joaquin Phoenix made his first public foray into the music world Friday, saying he was ready to put his real self out there and not hide behind movie characters, people.com reports.

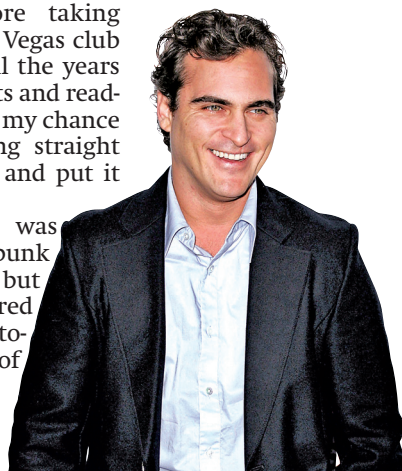
"This is me saying this is who I am. This is my story," the actor-turned-aspiring rapper told People magazine before taking the stage at Las Vegas club LAVO. "After all the years of reading scripts and reading lines, this is my chance to do something straight from the heart and put it out there."

"When I was young I liked punk rock music but then I discovered rap. I love the storytelling aspect of hip-hop."

Fluttering

around the club's catwalk, Phoenix, 34, rapped to the sounds of a drumbeat and encouraged the crowd to dance, people.com reports. While the crowd cheered for the songs, Phoenix said he was prepared for mixed feedback before taking the stage. "Are there people out there who think I'm a joke? I'm sure there will be," he told People magazine.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Mel B collects socks

FASHION Mel B says she collects "silly socks," report femalefirst.co.uk.

The former Spice Girl — who is the current face of Ultimo lingerie — loves wearing humorous socks to red carpet events and has been obsessed with peculiar footwear since she was a child, the website adds.

"I collect silly socks. I have done since I was 12," she says. "I like wearing them because it doesn't matter where you are. You could be at a premiere or something and you know that you're wearing socks that say the most

ridiculous thing on them or have the most ridiculous picture. You can always keep your humour."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Paris targeted by hackers

WEBSITE Paris Hilton has once again been targeted by hackers — her official website has reportedly been infected with a vicious computer virus, reports the website femalefirst.co.uk.

The socialite's webpage, ParisHilton.com, is said to have been hit by a malicious program that attaches itself to the computers of anyone visiting the site.

Any fans using the page are at risk of falling victim to the virus, which can steal their online bank details, according to OK! magazine.

Hilton was previously the victim of online crime in 2006.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Action star Craig doesn't like guns

PEOPLE Daniel Craig doesn't like guns, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The action star admits shooting holds no appeal for him, even though he fires off numerous rounds in his new film Defiance and plays trigger-happy British spy James Bond.

"I wouldn't touch a gun in my everyday life," he said. Craig's co-star Liev Schreiber — who stars opposite Hugh Jackman in upcoming comic-book adaptation Wolverine — mirrored the actor's sentiment.

"I don't enjoy firing guns, either ... even with fake bullets," Schreiber said.

Despite his fear of firearms, Craig has previously insisted he is never worried about performing dangerous stunts as Bond.

He said: "I'm never scared because we rehearse and rehearse. I don't just go stand on a roof and jump off it."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Drew admits she can't cook

PEOPLE Drew Barrymore makes her friends cook for her because she is such a bad chef, according to femalefirst.co.uk.

The He's Just Not That Into You actress admits she is clueless in the kitchen and so asks her pals to prepare food for her whenever they visit.

Asked how she coped when people come to dinner, Barrymore is quoted as saying: "I don't cook, I can't cook, and it is really abominable to see me in the kitchen. I order in takeaway food or get my friends to cook because a lot of them are very good."

The 33-year-old actress claims her culinary skills are so poor she can't even make toast.

"I do make scrambled eggs for myself sometimes but I wouldn't even inflict that on anyone else," she said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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